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CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Yugoslavia
 SUBJECT Communist Activities

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1. [redacted] approximately 550 thousand persons have been
 killed in Yugoslavia since the advent of the "Communist paradise." Among these
 victims are 100 thousand from Belgrade, 58 thousand from Zagreb, 11 thousand
 from Sarajevo, and 5 thousand from Ljubljana. Property of all victims was
 confiscated by the Government. Very few of the persons killed were collaborators;
 most were merely non-Communists.

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Comment [redacted] At least 500-550 thousand
 persons have been killed in Yugoslavia since the war, most of them in the early
 days immediately following liberation. The figures for killings in Belgrade and
 Zagreb seem high, however. A more accurate estimate would be 15-20 thousand in
 Belgrade and 8-10 thousand in Zagreb. All property has been confiscated, and
 the Government does not intend to pay anything for nationalized property. Approx-
 imately 50 thousand Germans are still in Yugoslav prison camps; another 70-80
 thousand have vanished.

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2. The Yugoslav Government's policy is "control through misery." The people are
 being robbed and destroyed systematically in order that the Communist Party may
 become stronger. The Party seems unaware or unconcerned that destruction of the
 people will mean ultimate destruction of the Yugoslav nation.
3. Communist agents organize competitions to determine who can collect the greatest
 quantity of grain from the collective farms. Contributions, though ostensibly
 voluntary, are actually forced. Approximately 50 thousand Serbs have been im-
 prisoned for refusing to surrender foodstuffs to "collectors." When unable to
 hide their grain, Serbs dump it into the rivers rather than "help the Soviets
 replenish their larder for the next war."

Comment [redacted] The seizing of produce
 from Serbian peasants has been going on since the end of the war. Peasants are
 required to contribute a certain percentage of their production. A campaign was
 started recently to force surrender of entire crops. Communist "flying squads"
 compete to see who can get the most out of the farmers. Results of the competition
 are published in the newspapers.

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4. During the recent harvest season, beaten and disfigured peasants were released
 from prison to serve as object lessons to prospective "contributors."

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In Kovacico, for example, two peasants, Martin Bolerac and Jacob Czech, were sent home after their eyes had been gouged out by Commissar Zurko of the Pancevo (near Belgrade) secret police (OZNA). Bolerac and Czech were forced to wander in the streets of Kovacico, telling their neighbors that they had received punishment for attempting to hide grain from the Government. Czech, after refusing to admit the justice of his punishment, had his tongue cut off by the secret police.

Comment [redacted] Kovacica in the Vojvodna is considered the breadbasket of Europe. The peasants and settlers are strongly against the regime. The Government is recruiting peasants for transfer to the former German villages.

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